



Environmental Pledge

The precious coral reefs of Hawaii are facing many serious threats from human actions. Even divers, snorkelers and other recreational users can harm coral reef ecosystems if they behave carelessly and do not show respect for marine life. Hundreds of thousands of people visit Hawaiian reefs every year so small individual infractions can add up to have a significant effect.

Because we care about our coral reefs and want to do everything possible to reduce human impacts, we ask that you commit to not participate in potentially destructive behavior. We are not attempting to limit your experience; in fact, following these rules of responsible marine recreation will help you to better understand and appreciate coral reefs while you help to preserve this unique ecosystem for future generations.

If you want to learn more about coral reef ecosystems and the thousand of creatures that depend on them, ask your guide or instructor to recommend websites and literature or check out: www.givethereefabreak.org.

I, _____, commit to minimize my impact to the sensitive coral ecosystem by following these rules of responsible marine recreation below.

I promise to:

- Always listen to my guide and/or instructor and follow her or his advice. Following safety guidelines can save my life and help to protect the reef.
- Never touch, step on, or kick coral reefs or live rock; Corals are living animals that eat, grow and reproduce and can be damaged by contact. They are also fully protected by State law.
- Never throw food or rubbish into the water or feed fish. Human food and bought fish food can sicken fish and other marine life and disrupt the natural interactions between reef organisms that keep the ecosystem healthy.
- Never chase or try to move or manipulate marine life; this can stress and harm the animals. If they want to approach you, it must be their choice.

I understand that if I disregard or knowingly violate these rules of responsible marine recreation, I could be excluded from further diving activities without right to refund and my behavior may be reported to other dive centers.

Signature: _____

Date: _____